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FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

DATE: January 24, 2007  
TO: Examiner Daniel Lastra  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Re: Preliminary Amendment for  
U.S. Patent Application No. 09/932,588  
Our Ref.: 2829-141  
Fax No.: 571-273-6720  
From: Richard Wydeven, Esq.

Number of Pages Including This Transmittal Sheet: 4

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SERVICES. THANK YOU.

Dear Examiner Lastra,

This is the Preliminary Amendment which was dated  
August 27, 2001. Please enter it in the record per our  
conversation yesterday. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Very truly yours,

  
Richard Wydeven

"Express Mail" Label No. EL 769970560 USDate of Deposit August 27, 2001PATENT  
018167-003800US

I hereby certify that this is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Address" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

By: **IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

James T. Panttaja, et al.

Application No.:

Filed: August 17, 2001

For: REDEMPTION SYSTEM FOR  
AWARD REDEMPTION

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 29 of page 11 with the following amended paragraph:

--Then, in a step 708, of the available awards with the earliest expiration date and with the earliest earning date, the most encumbered awards are determined. In the above example, the available awards with the earliest expiration date and with the earliest earning date correspond to rows 338 and 340. The awards corresponding to row 338 were earned at business "4" according to promotion "2". Referring now to Fig. 4, row 412 indicates that awards earned at business "4" according to promotion "2" are not accepted by supplier "200". Thus, the awards corresponding to row 338 are encumbered. On the other hand, the awards corresponding to row 340 were earned at